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Campus News Briefs

Laura Kraus
Staff Writer

Fine Art Series Presents

Trio Indiana will perform tomorrow (the 10th) at 7:30 in Hatfield Hall. Trio Indiana is an internationally praised clarinet group. They are three music professors from the IU School of Music: James Campbell, Eli Eban, and Howard Klug. The concert will be free to all Rose students, faculty, and staff.



SGA and club funding

SGA update - From the Dec. 16 meeting, SGA approved RoboCup's club status. Funds were approved for Robotics Team desktop computers, SCUBA club bills, an OVC 16 person Colorado Ski trip, and a RoboCup trip to New Orleans for competition.

Drama Club presents "Proof"

Begins Thursday, Jan. 15. This award winning play is a family drama in which a troubled young woman deals with the death of her brilliant mathematician father. Performances will be on Thursday (7:30), Friday (7:30), Saturday (7:30), and Sunday (2:30). Tickets are free to Rose students.

Professor trapped overseas!

RHIT professor Dr. Calvin Lui is stuck in Hong Kong after a holiday visit. He was going through the proper security to return home, when he was asked about his work in engineering and technology. Lui responded that he taught Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics, and this puts him on a "Technology Alert List." He is now ineligable for re-entry due to the export of sensitive goods, or in this case "technology." Lui's classes are being picked up by other faculty until his return.

Winter Formal 2004

If romance is in the air, it's pretty cold out. Turn up the heat and ask your sweetheart to the Winter Formal on Saturday, Jan. 17, sponsored by SAB. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and is \$5 (buy your tickets today, Monday, or Tuesday in the commons). Dancing in the Main Dining Hall at 7:30 is free. The theme this year is "fiesta," and there are rumors of non-alcoholic margaritas and wild piñata bashing.

Emergency telephones repaired

Odessa Goedert
Staff Writer

When Junior CS Brandi Soggs tried to use the newly-installed emergency telephone in the SRC/Triplets parking lot, she found the system in a state of disrepair.

Only two months after the installation of this emergency telephone pole, the system was non-functional; the strobe at the top of the pole signaled that assistance was needed, but no telephone connection to security was established.

When Wayne Spary, Director of the Department of Facilities, was notified of this serious equipment failure, he immediately arranged for the testing of all such systems campus-wide.

Public Safety officers found that out of the six emergency telephone poles on Rose campus, only one was fully operational—the one located directly in front of the Public Safety building.

According to Spary, Public Safety and Facilities currently perform no routine maintenance on the emergency telephone systems and have relied on students to report malfunctions.

Gary Flora, Director of Public Safety, says that the phones have never been used in an emergency situation, but that no one has used them inappropriately either.

Repairs were underway on



Carmen DuVall / Rose Thorn

The emergency phone shown above is just one of several non-working crisis contact points located on campus.

all malfunctioning phones immediately following their testing the week before Christmas break. "Come hell or high water, they'll be done tomorrow," said Spary on Tuesday of that week. All phones were, indeed, fixed by the end of the week.

The telephones are intended to be used in an emergency situation, and, when fully operational, the blue strobe light at the top of the

pole will flash and the telephone will be automatically connected to Public Safety.

During the summer of 2004, three new emergency poles will be erected on campus. Planned locations are the baseball, football, and intramural sports fields.

Purchase and installation costs of each emergency telephone system is approximately \$5,000.

Flu Season hits hard

Nicole Hartkemeyer
News Editor

Millions of people all over the world have already had to deal with the flu this season, making it the worst outbreak of influenza in several years. This has many experts fearing another flu pandemic, which have killed up to 50 million people worldwide in the past.

The flu, also known as influenza, is an infection of the throat, airways, and lungs, and can be caused by a large variety of viruses.

While the flu and cold symptoms are similar, influenza is much more serious as it drastically reduces the body's ability to fight off other infections. Most deaths attributed to the flu are actually caused by complications like a severe case of pneumonia or bronchitis.

A flu epidemic happens when a virus spreads quickly through a specified population, which happens every year. A pandemic, on the other hand, occurs when a virus spreads across the world.

The typical flu season, from October to March, strikes as many as eight million people every year. Outbreaks of the flu occur every year, but this year they have come earlier than usual and the virus is believed to be a new strain which is largely resistant to the vaccinations given to fight the flu season this year.

With the globalization of transportation and communications today, a worldwide pandemic could prove to be as deadly as the worst flu pandemic in history, the infamous Spanish flu outbreak of 1918 and 1919.

Continued on page 3...



Carmen DuVall / Rose Thorn

Cheryl Burgess administers flu vaccines.

Weather

Friday
AM Snow Showers
28 Hi / 11 Lo
Saturday
Mostly Sunny 26 Hi / 21 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Entertainment

This is for you, Natalie Portman!

Opinions

Will you still need me?
Will you still feed me?

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Sports

Get the latest run-down on Rose sports.

Page 7

Flipside

B'jija = $10 \wedge (\text{Pi} * 100)$

Page 8



Campus Calendar

						9	10
							6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Women's Basketball, at Rhodes College 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Student Activity, Guitarist Jason LeVasser
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. Student Activity, Ski Trip 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Fine Arts Series, Trio Indiana	6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Career Services Work- shop, How to Work The Internship/Co-op Fair Registration For Spring Quarter	6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Career Services' Re- sume Workshop Registration For Spring Quarter	Registration For Spring Quarter	6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Career Services' Re- sume Workshop Registration For Spring Quarter	7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Drama Club Play, "Proof" Registration For Spring Quarter	12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Indoor Track Meet 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Drama Club Play, "Proof"	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Drama Club Play, "Proof"	4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Engineers in Concert tryouts	4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Engineers in Concert tryouts	4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Engineers in Concert tryouts	4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Engineers in Concert tryouts	7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Student Activity, Take Five	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. Student Activities Board's Ski Trip 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Fine Arts Series, Aebersol & Neiweem Pianists	

Classifieds

<p>Join Us</p> <p>Do you find yourself hungry on Sunday nights? Join us for Hunger Management in the basement of New Residence Hall Sundays at 5pm. We serve a home cooked meal followed by a brief devotion. Hunger Management is sponsored by American Baptist Campus Connection. Questions? Call Dave Doles at 236-5121 or Mike Martin at 872-6128.</p>	<p>3 Bedroom Apartments</p> <p>Two 3 bedroom apartments for rent in Seelyville. \$400 Security deposit. Second floor apartment \$575/mo utilities included. First floor apartment \$595 /mo. utilities included. Leave a message for John Carrig at 812-665-4051.</p>	<p>Chevy Cavalier</p> <p>1995 Chevy Cavalier, 2-dr Coupe, Sunroof, auto, 125K, \$1,950, 877-8096</p>	<p>Table Talks</p> <p>Come to United Campus Ministries, 321 N 7th St., each Wednesday night at 5:30 for TABLE TALKS, a shared (often home cooked) meal and discussion around the table. Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu. http://ucm.indstate.edu.</p>
<p>Custom Embroidery</p> <p>FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS! Consider embroidered shirts, bags, jackets, or shorts to mark this year's big events. Custom digitizing, affordable prices. Small and single orders welcome. Call 478-1334 for information.</p>	<p>3 Bedroom House</p> <p>3 Bedroom House with large bedrooms, 2 baths with tub/shower. Could comfortably accommodate 3-5 students. Central air and washer/dryer hookups. \$600/month+utilities. Only 5 minutes from campus. Call 234-5680.</p>	<p>Sharp Flats East</p> <p>New owners and renovations. Renting for 2004-2005 school year. Efficiencies \$300 includes utilities. Studios \$350 includes utilities. 1 Bed \$400 + electric only. (These prices apply to most units) Off-street parking, Wireless internet, some furnished, great maintenance, close to campus, and more! Sharp Flats, LLC 877-1146.</p>	<p>Faculty and Friends Discussion Group</p> <p>This semester's FACULTY & FRIENDS DISCUSSION GROUP, facilitated by Dr. Bill Hughes, will read and discuss the book "Amazing Grace" by Kathleen Norris. Join us on Friday mornings at 8:00 at United Campus Ministries, 321 N. 7th St. 232-0186. Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu. http://ucm.indstate.edu.</p>
<p>Easy Fundraising</p> <p>Fraternities - Sororities - Clubs - Student Groups: Earn \$1,000 - \$2,000 this semester with a proven CampusFundraiser 3-hour fundraising event. Our free programs make fundraising easy with no risks. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. Contact CampusFundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.</p>	<p>Large Contemporary Apt.</p> <p>Large contemporary apartment for 2-3 persons. Within 10 minutes of campus. Off street parking. \$600/month+electric. Call 234-5680.</p>	<p>Sharp Flats on Sixth Street</p> <p>Now renting for 2004-2005 School year. Located on or near South Sixth Street. Studios and 1-9 bedroom units. Call Sharp Flats, LLC 877-1146</p>	<p>Exploring Scripture by E-mail</p> <p>EXPLORING SCRIPTURE BY E-MAIL is a program of weekly Bible reflection sent to you by e-mail. If you would like to receive this call United Campus Ministries at 232-0186 or e-mail us at Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu.</p>
	<p>2 Bedroom House</p> <p>2 Bedroom House in nice quiet neighborhood. Only 5 minutes from campus. \$450/month+utilities. Call 234-5680.</p>	<p>The Bible and Our Lives</p> <p>THE BIBLE AND OUR LIVES meets each Tuesday night at 6:30 at United Campus Ministries, 321 N 7th St. We have a group discussion on the Bible and spirituality as part of our lives. Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu. http://ucm.indstate.edu.</p>	<p>3 Bedroom Apartment</p> <p>Furnished three bedroom apartment available Fall quarter. Nine month lease. \$525 includes utilities. Contact Dr. Ditteon (CL104, Box 171, ext. 8247 or 299-5182) for more information.</p>

The Rose Thorn website, updated for your viewing pleasure:
<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/Thorn>

Classified Ads Information

Pricing Information:
\$3.00 for first 30 words
+15¢ per additional word
+15¢ per bold-face word

Submission Deadlines:
Ads must be submitted by Tuesday, 5 p.m. of the week they are to run.

What to submit:
Insertion Date, Customer's Contact Name, Address, Phone, and Fax, as well as the Text of the Ad.

Campus Group Ad Pricing Information:
\$3.25 per column inch
Full page = \$250

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The Rose Thorn is printed Fridays during the standard Rose-Hulman quarters.



Flu, from Page 1

It killed an estimated 20 to 50 million people worldwide and some 500,000 in the U.S. alone according to the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Vaccines for the flu were finally developed in the 1940's and are believed to have prevented more severe pandemics from occurring in more recent years.

In 1957, the Asian flu killed an estimated 70,000 people in the U.S. but this pandemic was identified quickly because of scientific advances, and helped to prevent more deaths. Flu fatalities diminished greatly by 1968, when the Hong Kong flu and the last true flu pandemic occurred. The number of people killed in the U.S. during this out-

break was down to about 34,000.

More recently, flu scares in the 1990s also failed to erupt into major health threats. A 1997 outbreak of Avian flu -- a virus previously seen only in birds -- killed six people in Hong Kong and prompted Chinese officials to order the slaughter of all chickens in the region.

Hong Kong also was the focal point of a 1999 flu scare which also was linked to birds. Although no one was known to have died from the strain, two children identified with the virus were hospitalized and later recovered.

Despite the pandemic scares in the last few decades, experts insist we are due for one within the next five to ten years.

Vaccine is the key to fighting

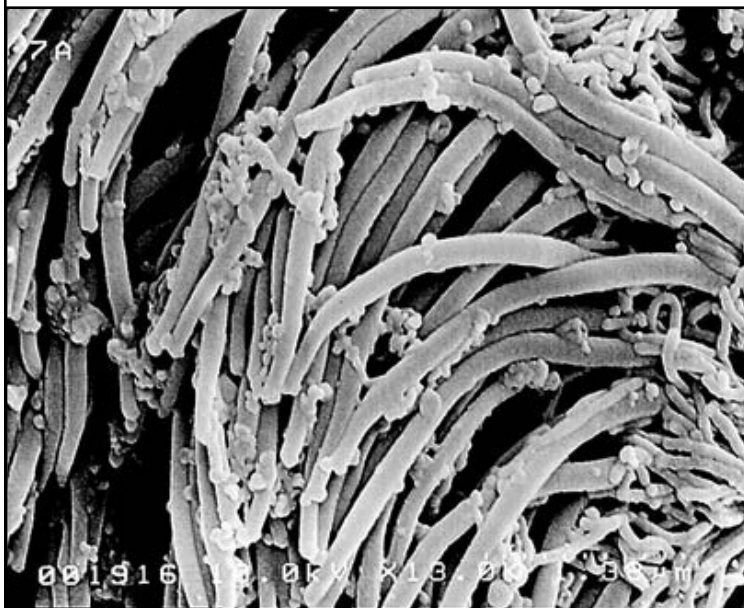
off the potentially deadly and highly contagious respiratory disease. The flu shot is becoming increasingly important; most sources will say it is 70 to 90 percent effective in healthy adults. The success rate is slightly lower in children and older people. After the shot, the immune system produces antibodies that attack the flu virus when it enters the body.

The flu shot is safe to take with only a few exceptions. Those allergic to eggs shouldn't take it because the vaccine is made from inactivated viruses, grown in fertilized hen's eggs. There can also be some short term side effects from taking the shot, including a mild case of the flu. Also, one in a million people will develop Guillian-Barre Syndrome, or GBS, a nervous system disease.

Most GBS patients recover, and the risk is considered to be small compared to the unquestionable damage the flu does.

Some people believe the flu shot is nearly useless in preventing the flu because the strains of viruses that effect people during a flu season are commonly not included in that year's flu vaccination.

U.S. health officials try to push for flu shots every year. They have lowered the age for children to take the shot to six months in 2003. The American Academy of Family Physicians has recommended that universal influenza vaccinations start at age 50 because there are many high risk individuals in the group of people between 50 and 65 years old.



<http://www.medinfo.ufl.edu/year2/mmid/bms5300/bugs/influ.html>

The influenza virus, which ravages humanity year after year.



Photo courtesy of Charles Williams

The run off from Scum Pond into Speed Lake froze this week.

Fiesta del SAB

Gettin' cold outside? Does a place like Mexico sound good right about now? Well, come join SAB at the annual winter dance on Saturday, January 17th. If a three-course catered meal sounds good, come buy your ticket anytime Friday (1/9), Monday (1/12), or Tuesday (1/13) in the commons.

Tickets are only \$5.00 each!!!! (SAB is pickin' up the rest!) If you don't feel like dinner and you just want to enjoy the dancing that will take place afterwards, all you have to do is drop by! No ticket necessary...it's totally FREE! So don't forget to come to see the Main Dining Room transformed into a fiesta complete with PINATAS and MARGARITAS! (Dinner is from 6pm-7:30pm and Dancing is from 7:30pm-11pm)

HASTA LUEGO!



Mad cow disease scare leaves lingering apprehension around U. Oregon

By Lisa Catto
Oregon Daily Emerald (U. Oregon)
01/07/2004

(U-WIRE) EUGENE, Ore. - Two things may be on the mind of everyone at and around the University of Oregon lately: the weather and mad cow disease.

On Dec. 23 the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced a presumptive diagnosis of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, also known as BSE or mad cow disease, in an adult Holstein cow from Washington state.

Although the discovery of mad cow disease in the United States has rattled some cages, official sources say that beef does not pose a health threat to the population.

"The federal investigating authorities have concluded that human food supplies have not been threatened in any way," Washington Gov. Gary Locke said in a press release. "Beef remains safe for consumption in our state and across the country."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the infected cow didn't come from the United States. The CDC Web site stated that based on the cow's ear tag identification number it was most likely imported from Canada in August 2001.

Although the infected cow was processed for human consumption, the USDA recalled all beef from cattle slaughtered on Dec. 9 at the involved plant.

As a result of the mad cow

disease scare, some Eugeneans are having second thoughts about consuming or purchasing beef.

Bonnie Forrester, a public health nurse for the Lane County (Ore.) Public Health Department, said she has received many calls from concerned residents.

"People ask if the beef that they have in their fridge is OK," Forrester said.

But she said the panic over mad cow disease has tapered off and Lane County residents have a new worry on their minds.

"We haven't been receiving calls," Forrester said. "People are concerned with the weather."

According to the CDC Web site, mad cow disease is a progressive neurological disorder that results from infection by an unconventional transmissible agent. It may stem from feeding cattle food that contains nerve tissue from the brain and spinal column of other cows.

Mad cow disease is most common in the United Kingdom, with more than one million cattle that may have been infected there.

When humans eat meat from an infected cow, they can contract a variant of the disease called Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease and commonly referred to as vCJD.

As of Dec. 1, 143 vCJD cases had occurred in the United Kingdom out of a worldwide total of 153 cases. The CDC disclosed that one of these cases



<http://www.greenwave.com/radiol/>

Mad Cow disease devastates the bovine population.

occurred in the United States but that the patient lived in the United Kingdom before moving to the United States.

Forrester said that anyone with concerns about eating beef should contact the CDC or the Oregon Department of Agriculture. She added that if anyone is concerned about their specific beef, they should contact the store where it was purchased.

UO senior Gillian Ronning expressed some concern about the discovery of mad cow disease in the United States.

Ronning said that she recently left her vegetarian lifestyle behind and found out about the mad cow scare the day after eating her first steak. She said concerns crossed her mind, but she stopped thinking about it that same day.

"I think the chances of getting infected are small," she said, "but it is still something I would think about before buying beef."

SGA Updates

Derek Trobaugh
Guest Writer

Welcome back. We hope that everyone had a good winter break. The Student Government Association has some exciting events coming up before the end of the quarter.

Elections for the new SGA President and Vice-President are coming up at the end of the month. You should have received a petition in your mailbox and these are due back Jan. 19 to the Student Affairs office. Primary elections will be Jan. 27, with final elections being held on Feb. 3. Elections will be held online through Banner Web. If you have any questions about the elections, please contact Nichole Parke at parkenm@rose-hulman.edu.

SGA will be tailgating at the men's and women's basketball game on Jan. 16. There will be free cotton candy for all students. Also, SGA is sponsoring different events with the help of Student Affairs, RHA, and SAB at basketball games. Look for further announcements about these events.

Engineers Week is com-

ing up Feb. 2-6. On Monday, Feb. 2, we will have hot chocolate and doughnuts outside of the Commons. On Wednesday, Feb. 4, the ARA will have a special dessert for lunch. Finally on Friday, Feb. 6, we will be co-hosting an event with SAB that will include various inflatables (e.g. obstacle course and bungee run). This will take place in the Kahn Room and the Main Dining Room from 8-11 pm.

Finally, the SGA Exchange is up and running. This can be found at www.rose-hulman.edu/SGA/exchange. This site is for you to get a hold of other students who are selling books, music, and other items that you may be interested in. No money will be transferred through the site. The site is just a way to get in contact with the seller. If you have any questions about the site you can email Ron Zuckerman at ron.zuckerman@rose-hulman.edu.

If you have any questions regarding any of the events, feel free to contact a member of the Executive Council. Hope to see all of you at the events.



"Cold Mountain" warms the nation

Bob Schlein
Co-Editor in Chief

"Cold Mountain" is a love story set in Civil War times. Inman (Jude Law) leaves behind Ada (Nicole Kidman) to fight for the Confederacy. Compelled by love and disillusioned by the constant fighting, Inman leaves his comrades to journey home to his love at Cold Mountain.

Along his way home, Inman meets a host of interesting characters. These characters end up being more memorable than the central love story, and many actors appear in unexpected roles and do a surprisingly good job.

Apparently, Natalie Portman can actually act! She appears briefly as a soldier's widow Inman meets along his way home. The pain of losing her husband and being responsible for her child can be seen in her eyes and body language. Her desire for Inman is clearly visible from the moment the two meet but little dialogue is exchanged. Now if only George Lucas could learn to communicate with



"Cold Mountain" is an epic love story set against the backdrop of the American Civil War. Jude Law and Nicole Kidman do an admirable job as the leads, but it is the supporting cast (Renee Zellweger pictured) who steal the show.

actors...

Renee Zellweger steals all of her scenes as Ruby, a feisty woman who helps Ada keep her farm. Zellweger bites into her role and doesn't let go — she plays the hardworking woman for all she's worth. There has been lots of Oscar buzz for her winning Best Supporting Actress already and I would be happy if she walked away

with the prize.

Philip Seymour Hoffman takes a welcome turn from the independent film circuit, taking the small role of a sex-obsessed preacher. His character serves as comic relief and is very memorable. Giovanni Ribisi and Donald Sutherland also have good small parts.

The lead actors also do a very good job. Law

continues to amaze me with his versatility. He gets really dirty in this movie and his pain feels real. The suffering of his people torments him and he is only kept alive by his love for Ada. Law carries the movie just fine but it is the supporting cast, in all their eccentric glory, which makes it worthwhile.

Kidman, while doing

an admirable job, never really seems to inhabit her character like the other actors do. This might have been done on purpose to keep her character a somewhat mythical figure to Inman. If it this was the case, then she should have had less screen time. Ultimately, her character just seems to be there. The movie wouldn't work without her, but the part could have been developed more.

Ultimately, the love story is overshadowed by the amazing performances by the supporting cast. Inman and Ada's love is never fully developed and is one of those "love at first sight" deals. All the grand talk is a bit much when they haven't seen that much of each other.

Shortcomings aside, I really enjoyed "Cold Mountain." The story moved surprisingly fast and wondering what kind of wacky character you'll meet next will keep you entertained. With a more developed central story, this could have been my favorite movie of the year. As it stands, it's an excellent character piece.

Out This Week

Movies

Big Fish

Director: Tim Burton
Starring: Ewan McGregor
Rated: PG-13

Chasing Liberty

Director: Andy Cadiff
Starring: Mandy Moore
Rated: PG-13

My Baby's Daddy

Director: Cheryl Dunye
Starring: Eddie Griffin
Rated: PG-13

DVD

The Shield Second Season

Starring: Michael Jace

Babylon 5 Fourth Season

Starring: Bruce Boxleitner

The Postman Always Rings Twice

Director: Tay Garnett
Starring: Lana Turner

Uptown Girls

Director: Boaz Yakin
Starring: Brittany Murphy

My Darling Clementine

Director: John Ford
Starring: Henry Fonda

"21 Grams" pulls its weight

By Pablo Saldana
The Oracle (U. South Florida)
01/08/2004

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. - "21 Grams" is one of the best films of 2003, boasting daring direction, gripping performances and a well crafted storyline. The title is not a drug reference, but is instead an allusion to the weight a person loses at the precise moment of death.

Sean Penn and Naomi Watts deliver the best roles of their careers, while Benicio Del Toro builds on the promise of his Academy Award winning role in "Traffic." Watts lights up the screen with her portrayal of a modern-day Florence Henderson who transforms into a drug addict after death strikes close to home.

Mexican director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu convincingly captures these three individuals coming together through tragedy, while mastering non-linear storytelling. This style of fragmented plot structure turns "21 Grams" into a cinematic puzzle that doesn't become clear until all the pieces are in place.

Penn plays Paul, a math professor who refers to himself as a member of the "pre-

corpses club," waiting for his failing heart to give out. He drags an oxygen tank when he walks and waits for his wife to leave long enough to sneak himself a smoke.

After giving up hope on his own heart, a fatal car accident claims the lives of a father and his two daughters and Paul finds himself with a new beater in his chest and the thought of connecting to the person who has given it to him. What Paul finds, though, is an empty house that echoes with the loneliness of a heartbroken widow, Christine (Watts).

Christine is a blonde beauty whose dream has become a nightmare, leaving her with haunting memories of her lost family. She numbs the pain with a line of coke and some whiskey. That is, until Paul appears.

Together they hunt down the man responsible for the deaths -- a criminal who has found Christ -- played by the haunting Del Toro. Crippled by his guilt and confused as to why God allowed such a tragedy to occur, Jack (Del Toro) is among modern cinema's most compelling characters. What begins as an act of gratitude on Paul's part slowly becomes an act of

murderous chivalry.

Inarritu tells the story in abstract fashion, giving the audience bits and pieces of the story. Despite this, the director manages to flawlessly build on the suspense, leaving viewers in the dark as to what may occur at any given moment.

This approach could've been distracting in other hands, but Inarritu keeps "21 Grams" consistently brilliant and draws audiences even further into each character's misguided choices.

Penn doesn't stray from the grief stricken character he played in Clint Eastwood's "Mystic River." Now, Penn has two award-caliber performances, and is a shoe-in for a Best Actor nomination.

Watts is fantastic as the vengeful Christine, giving her all and making even the most mundane scenes dramatic and memorable. She has clearly grown as an actress, and gives arguably the best female performance of last year.

"21 Grams" most fully developed character, Jack -- Del Toro's most convincing work to date -- is one of the most eerie aspects of the movie. Del Toro steals scenes from veteran Penn and, with

his ability to create a fully rounded character, gives Jack a unique persona not often seen in modern film.

The film's only low point is a sluggish and flavorless start, with a few interesting character moments but nothing remarkable. That soon fades as the film sinks its teeth into audiences and doesn't relent for the remainder of the movie.

Since the release of "Memento," many directors have been using alternate chronology as an effective tool in story telling, but no film has used the technique as well as "21 Grams." The movie's fresh feeling is impressive given that this road has been traveled often in the last few years.

The film is an angst-filled theatrical rollercoaster of emotions, which has been a theme for some of this winter's best, from "Mystic River" to "The House of Sand and Fog" -- films anything but perfect and sweet.

"21 Grams" isn't cluttered with an abundance of special effects or overshadowed by an epic love story. Instead, the film is grounded by amazing performances and the dark themes of revenge, grief and violence.



Is "Gigli" really *that* bad?



The Guy
with the
Movie
Camera

Bob Schulein
Co-Editor in Chief

"Gigli." Are you still reading? Wow, I'm surprised! The J. Lo / Ben Affleck summer movie of that name attracted horrendous reviews and brought the country out of "Bennifer" fever. I'm a sucker for bad movies, so I had to check it out!

I'm sad to say that "Gigli" really disappointed me. As far as bad movies go, this one has nothing on such classics as "Troll 2," and "Plan 9 from Outer Space." "Gigli" is actually a decent movie with just a few critical flaws. The movie has some inspired moments and Lopez delivered some memorable lines.

The reason critics condemned the movie to a lifetime in the

\$4.99 bin is simple: it starred the hottest overexposed Hollywood couple of the moment. The only thing our society likes more than placing people on a pedestal is to tear the pedestal out from under them to laugh as they fall.

I was as sick as the next person of all the attention Affleck and Lopez were getting last summer. Every grocery checkout was covered in magazines sporting their mugs. Exposure that extreme cannot last forever, and the backlash happened to "Gigli." The public, the same group that fueled the hype machine behind the pair's overexposure, just needed to bring them down. "Gigli" was the perfect target.

"Gigli" has an admittedly ridiculous premise. Affleck is an assassin who pairs up with Lopez (an assassin who happens to be bi-sexual) to hold a mentally ill brother of a Federal prosecutor hostage. Affleck's sexiness prevails and captures Lopez's love. High profile actors turn up in goofy places.

Everyone loves to hate something and this was the

perfect target. Many claimed it to be the worst movie of the year. I disagree; "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle" or "House of 1000 Corpses" get my vote. Everybody who was anybody hated "Gigli." It was all the rage to talk with your friend about how bad it was and how dumb Affleck and Lopez were for making it.

What troubles me is how cruel and personal so many of the reviews were. People personally attacked Lopez and Affleck for being bad people. I'm sick of seeing Affleck everywhere I turn, but I'm not going to write an article attacking him as a person.

It's easy to jump on the bandwagon and attack a movie or people. It's not right, but that doesn't seem to stop people in our culture from adapting the popular opinion as their own. Ideally, people would make up their minds by themselves. Of course, not everybody wants to sit through every movie released to judge its merits; that's what critics are for. It's just a shame that so many critics can't do their jobs correctly.



Photo courtesy of imdb.com

DVD of the Week

"X2: X-Men United"

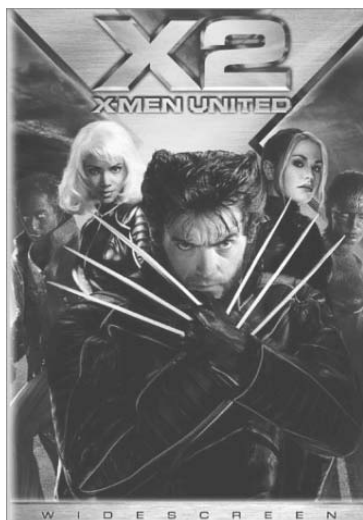
Ryan Cavanaugh
Staff Writer

Who's your favorite X-Men character? Wolverine? Magneto? Nightcrawler?

You'd be hard pressed to find a Rose student who doesn't already know that like they know their favorite color. "X2 - X-Men United" picks up where the excellent "X-Men" movie left off, bringing exciting new twists, thrilling special effects, and even more mutants.

After a mutant attempts to assassinate the president, a covert government organization led by William Stryker (Brian Cox) attacks the Academy as part of a larger plan to solve "the mutant problem" for good. The X-Men must unite with Magneto and other mutants to protect themselves from Stryker's evil plans. Along the way, Wolverine discovers more about his past, and we meet many new characters from the X-Men universe. Nearly the entire cast of "X-Men" returns for "X2", with the notable additions of Alan Cumming as Nightcrawler and Kelly Hu as Lady Deathstrike.

Although internet forums exploded with posts decrying the apparent omission of Gambit and Jubilee from major roles, the deleted scenes of the DVD feature a very short scene showing Jubilee with some special effects



illustrating her powers. Also, you can see Gambit's real name on a computer screen in another scene if you're good with the pause key. Other than a couple of good deleted scenes, the bonus DVD material is mostly filler.

While "Simpsons Comic Book Guy" level fans might not appreciate a few of the liberties taken with the characters, the universe of the movie is both consistent and believable. Director and co-writer Brian Singer has done an excellent job maintaining the feel of the X-Men without adhering to the comics too much to make an enjoyable movie. The most notable divergence from the comics involves the death of a major character in X2 (you'll have to watch it to find out who).

Finally, it's worth noting that "X-Men 3" has been announced, and is scheduled for release in 2006.



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One hundred years of miracles... at least



I tell you what to think!!!

Brandon Hathaway
Opinions Editor

It is a fifteen hour drive to New Smyrna Beach, Florida, so as you can imagine, I fly a lot. I tend to read on the plane, though, because not much happens for most of the flight. But I always set my book down for the takeoff and landing.

Two days after the one hundred year anniversary of man conquering the sky, I was being taken in a Boeing 737 from a snowy Midwestern airport southwestward to another airport in a much different climate. It is a

marvelous thing to behold. Two weeks later, I would turn twenty. I have been alive one-fifth the time that people have been flying. It happened because two people decided they'd do something that had never been done before. Even though they were ill-equipped to do so and that others more educated and more expected to succeed were trying to do it first.

It truly is one of the high spots for us, not only as Americans, but as people. It is amazing what we can do.

The motivations that inspired us to circumnavigate the earth, to explore the West and to climb Mount Everest are the same ones that took us to the sky. They are the same ones that took us to the Moon

35 years ago and to Mars again last week. We are explorers, we are a people who are always challenging the unknown.

It is also amazing how easy it is to forget. Things that were once wondrous and incredible become routine because we continue to do other things that are more amazing than the last amazing thing. Clocks once revolutionized world travel.

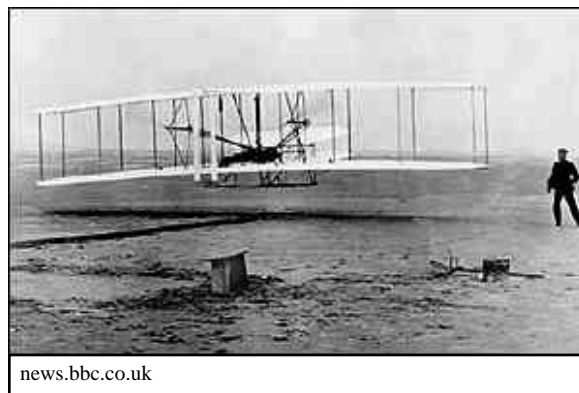
Radio changed our country. Yet these discoveries, as radical and new ideas as they were at their inception, are commonplace to the necessities. No automobile comes without either of those, and automobiles themselves are quite a feat.

The problems that impair the

appreciation of the exploratory and industrious nature of man are not only the mundane. The same techniques of manufacturing that made the automobile available to pretty much everyone in

America was first used to develop weapons. The project to discover the power of the atom ended a world war while creating fear of the possibilities of others that are far worse. The very vehicles of flying have quite recently been used against us in anger as well.

These possible drawbacks should not hinder us. The weaknesses of a few should never hinder the progress of the human spirit. And,



news.bbc.co.uk

of course, they cannot. We would not have come as far as we have as a people if fear could ever overcome the human imagination.

I feel fortunate to be a member of humanity. The wonders that will be created in aviation's next hundred years will surely surpass those that were discovered in its first. Human ingenuity is incredible, and it is funny how you are reminded of that when you start to forget.

It is amazing what we can do. It is also amazing how easy it is to forget.

Dr. Love is back... ...but we've all lost count



Ask Dr. Love

Kevin Spontak
Staff Writer

Holy crap, a "Doctor Love" article in the Rose Thorn—what's the deal with that? I thought I got banned from writing for the Thorn. Or at least that's what I have had a large number of

people tell me. But let me assure you, Doctor Love will live forever. Nothing can stop a legacy such as the one I am leaving.

So, I might as well go into why I haven't been writing for a while. If you have read my column, I mentioned this girl I was dating that I was pretty serious with. Anyway, recently she and I broke up, so the thought of writing about love and dating didn't really appeal to me for a little bit. And this is all FYI. I'm not looking for sympathy in this matter. If you're finding out about this right now, I don't really want to talk to you about it. I know it sucks and I don't need you to tell me that. I really don't want some stranger coming up to me in a hall between a class and saying, "Sorry to hear about your girl, man."

Rule # 15: "Some things time can't heal." To be perfectly honest, I have picked up a lot of my views on dating from a friend of mine back home. So, next time you think, "What a jackass," just remember that I am only the apprentice; there is somebody worse out there.

Moving on though, my friend and I were talking about losing a relationship that you're very attached to and all that goes along with that. Well, she had a relationship with someone she absolutely adored and it ended for reasons she couldn't help and it's still touchy for her. This was about six years ago, and that's the point of this: no matter what you do in your life, you could get married, have kids, any of that stuff, but any person you loved before, and this is real love, not just lust, you will always remember. And no amount of time can change that.

And since it would be such a shame to waste an opening like the one above on trivial matters, let's talk about love in general. Love is a funny thing. It doesn't make a whole lot of sense. And it never will. But if you live your whole life without ever falling in love with someone, then you have missed out on something more wonderful than words can really describe.

So, you're with a girl; since this is Rose and I know a good deal of the population, we'll just pretend. So, you're with this imaginary girl, we'll call her "Bill." How do you know you love "Bill?" I don't know. Great answer right? But it's true. There is only one person who can tell you how you feel about other people. So as a guy writing for a school newspaper, I can't tell you anything about it. I can guess and I can speculate but in the end, that's all it is. And sometimes people I have known couldn't tell whether they were in love and they started freaking out.

Love isn't something that you can force or even get to do what you want it to. Your heart will always follow its own path and all you can really do is hold on. By the way, the "Bill" scenario works with girls, too. Just replace the words "imaginary girl" with "desperate boy" and "Bill" with "Sara."

However, so many people have said so much on love in general, me adding my two cents probably won't do much. If you really liked this line of subject matter, feel free to write in and ask me to continue, but until then, I'm going to move on to a more pressing matter. A little while ago, someone called into question my "smooth and deadliness." So to that person, even though you were drunk, piss on you, I do fine with the ladies. As I have often said, the hardest part of dating is finding someone that you're interested in. After that it gets real easy. And even though you may not agree with my views, I have found plenty of pretty girls who do. More over, this area is not a real great place to pick up cuties. I remember a guy who was much smoother and deadlier with the ladies than I ever could be saying that exact thing to me a couple years ago. But just as a reference, the girl I was very serious with and I broke up about a month ago. And I'm dating someone else now. So again, piss off, I do fine with the ladies.

Almost as exciting as socks

Ryan Cavanaugh
Staff Writer

Last year at some point my family members began asking me what I wanted for Christmas. For whatever reason, they're not content to give me money, and less content to give me nothing; my top two choices. Failing my preferred options, I defaulted to "whatever will be useful for me in Seattle," Seattle being where I'll be starting my new job upon graduation at the end of this term.

Moving 1200 miles to start a new life in a new city means a lot of things, not the least of

which being the necessity of furnishing one's residence. It occurred to me that I really have no idea what kind of things I'd need in a

new apartment or house. Do they come with glass in the windows, or does the previous tenant take it with him? How many can openers will I need? These questions boggle the feeble domestic region of the engineer's brain.

Christmas day comes, and I have a variety of boxes, most of which weigh in excess of 20 pounds. Upon unwrapping them, I find a set of flatware (just a fancy word for silverware and plates), a bunch of kitchen utensils with great rubber handles, but the large unwrapped box in the corner mystifies me. It's about four feet by two feet by two feet, and weighs forty pounds.

Possible candidates: servant monkey in suspended animation, bricks for building my own fireplace, Lord of the Rings 1300-Disc Special Extended Edition.

I open the box last to find a vacuum cleaner. Not just any vacuum cleaner, but the bagless kind like you see on TV. Cool! Wait a minute, why am I excited about a vacuum cleaner? I haven't even used one in years, thanks to hardwood floors and RHIT housekeeping. Thoughts race through my mind – have I become a boring twenty-something who only talks about the latest appliance he bought and figuring out his tax

liability for the upcoming fiscal quarter. Holy crap, I already did figure out my tax liability and the exact values to fill in on my W4

form (I am not making this up).

Where does my salvation lie? Surely I can't already be doomed to the bland dreariness of the "real world." I realized that getting a vacuum cleaner is like buying a car. Sure, you have to change the oil, learn how to change a tire, and get a driver's license, but in return you get reach new heights of freedom and independence. The burdens of a vacuum cleaner, kitchen tools, and other assorted domestica are a small price to pay for the new echelon of freedom and self-reliance that comes with being the master of one's own house (or studio apartment).

How many can openers will I need?

An Army of One

Odessa Goedert
Staff Writer

There is only one soldier in our Army. He might be your father, your brother, or your neighbor. Or, she might be your sister or your cousin.

When the Army moves into new territory, I do not think of the thousands of nameless, faceless soldiers piling into

their Hum-vees and Bradleys and driving towards their newest mission. I think of First Lieutenant Hunter Bevis with the 1st Cavalry Brigade climbing into his M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank and motoring to an undisclosed, inevitably more dangerous location beneath the sweltering Iraqi sun.

He is scheduled to be in Iraq for 6 more months; he will have missed Christmas,

his father's birthday, and his own birthday for the first time in years. Every year on his birthday, April 1, we would pull pranks on each other, trying to top the previous April Fool's Day. This year, Hunter's holidays will be spent with M-16s and anti-tank armor instead of candles and short-sheeted beds. This year, I will have to save the jokes for later.

When the media covers

military movements, they are not just reporting the tactics of war, they are describing my brother's daily life. Our families and friends stationed in the Middle East are in danger every day, yet we often go on with our lives as though this danger is of no consequence. Unfortunately, days go by when I do not think of Hunter, in fact, many more than I would like.

It is family that keeps our troops strong; it is our love and support that keeps them going. Whether or not I stand behind the war, I will absolutely stand behind my brother. Our victories are based on the army that remains behind; this is my Army of One: one nation united, not in war, but in compassion for our soldiers and hope for a safe and speedy homecoming.



Rose Sports Rundown

by Andrew Twarek

MEN'S BASKETBALL (7-4, 1-0 SCAC)

Last Week:

Rose-Hulman 71, DePauw University 56—The Rose-Hulman men defeated DePauw Monday night, for the first win against the school in six years. Sophomore *Munchie Muskeyvalley* led the Engineers with a season-high 25 points, and junior *Philip Griffith* added 16 points and a pair of blocked shots.

Other Engineer standouts were junior *Jason Ludwig* with nine points and eight rebounds, and sophomore *Kareem Lee* who supplied four points, nine rebounds and a career-high six assists.

The first half of the game was back-and-forth, with eight lead changes. Rose-Hulman gained the lead for good in the last five minutes of the half and didn't allow a Tiger field goal for over ten minutes spanning halftime. The Engineers shot 46% from the floor and held DePauw to only 32%.

This week:

Rose-Hulman vs. Rhodes College (5-5, 1-1 SCAC) – Fri., Jan. 9, 9 p.m. ET, at Bryan Campus Life Center (Memphis, Tenn.)

Rose-Hulman vs. Hendrix College (0-9, 0-2 SCAC) – Sun., Jan. 2 p.m. ET at Grove Gymnasium (Conway, Ark.)

WRESTLING

Last week:

Rose-Hulman At Citrus Open – Collin Wyse and Byron Sanders both won five matches in Ft. Lauderdale over Winter Recess. Wyse finished 5-2 on the weekend, including 4-0 in the Duals portion. The sophomore Sanders put up a 5-3 record overall. Tom Aigner, another sophomore, went 3-4 in the Citrus.

This week:

Nothing Scheduled



Photo Courtesy Rose-Hulman

Sophomore Munchie Muskeyvalley made 25 points in the men's game against Depauw.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (4-8, 0-1 SCAC)

Last Week:

DePauw University 52, Rose-Hulman 44 – A balanced effort by the Engineers made a 10-point second-half comeback, but couldn't overcome the early Tiger lead Monday night. Sophomore *Anna Hall* led Rose-Hulman with 15 points and added six rebounds, and freshman *Rebekah Forsyth* added her seventh double-double of the season with 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Engineers.

Other scorers for Rose-Hulman include *Carrie Wiley* (5), *Jessica Farmer* (4, plus three blocked shots), *Karyn Kost* (3), *Katie Hamstra* (2), and *Kiley Wallace* (2). They improved a 25% shooting effort in the first half to 48% after the break, while holding the Tigers to only 20% in that second period.

This week:

Rose-Hulman vs. Rhodes College (8-4, 2-0 SCAC) – Fri., Jan. 9, 7 p.m. ET, at Bryan Campus Life Center (Memphis, Tenn.)

Rose-Hulman vs. Hendrix College (9-4, 1-1 SCAC) – Sun., Jan. 11, 4 p.m. ET at Grove Gymnasium (Conway, Ark.)

ATHLETES OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Football:

Coach *Ted Karras* was awarded "Best Performance by a Rookie Coach" by d3football.com. His team finished 5-5 and had three conference players of the week, eight all-conference team members, and an Academic All-American in **Ryan Smith**.

M. Basketball:

Munchie Muskeyvalley lit up the court with 25 points (one shy of a career-high) in the win over DePauw, including five three-pointers and several strong drives down the lane.

W. Basketball:

The *Women's Team* had a strong second half, defeating DePauw by 10 in the final 20:00. All of the healthy members of the team scored a point, and all but one grabbed a rebound in a very balanced game.

Wrestling:

Collin Wyse put up the team's best record, 5-2, in Florida over break.

Mississippi State rallies to defeat Ole Miss

By John Wilbert
Daily Mississippian (U. Mississippi)
01/08/2004

(U-WIRE) OXFORD, Miss. - It was a tale of two halves Wednesday night at the Tad Smith Coliseum as Ole Miss took on Mississippi State in the Southeastern Conference opener for both teams.

Ole Miss (8-4, 0-1 SEC) played a solid first half against Mississippi State (12-0, 1-0 SEC), shooting a near 45 percent from the field en route to a 29-19 halftime lead.

However, the second half was not in favor of the Rebels, as Mississippi State outscored the Rebels 42-25 in the last 20 minutes of the game to win 61-54.

Ole Miss led by as much as 12 points in the first half thanks to the all-around play of forward Tommie Eddie. Eddie scored seven points and grabbed 11 rebounds in the first half.

Eddie scored some tough

baskets inside the paint for the Rebels, who outscored the Bulldogs 18-8 in the paint during the opening half.

Ole Miss also out-rebounded Mississippi State 22-14 in the first half.

Unfortunately for the Rebels, Eddie's success, as well as his teammates', did not carry over to the second half, as the Rebels only shot a mere 38 percent from the floor.

The Bulldogs, on the other hand, shot an impressive 58 percent from the floor in the second half.

"I think we were trying to hold onto the lead instead of just going on and try to win a basketball game because we were tentative and not aggressive enough," Ole Miss head coach Rod Barnes said.

"In this league, most of the games come down to the last four or five minutes, and their team won the four or five minutes tonight, and as a result they came away with the win."

The Bulldogs were led by

Timmy Bowers and Lawrence Roberts, who scored 18 and 11 points, respectively.

Tommie Eddie and Justin Reed led the Rebels with 13 points each. Todd Abernethy added 12 points for Ole Miss.

Mississippi State came roaring out of the gates at the start of the second half, cutting the Rebs' lead down to one, 29-28, in just over two minutes.

However, Ole Miss responded to Mississippi State's early run and went on a 16-7 run to build their lead back up to 10 with 9:46 left to play in the game.

The Bulldogs took over for good on a layup by Branden Vincent with 4:26 to go in the game.

"We didn't establish ourselves from the beginning after halftime," Barnes said.

Barnes said he thought Vincent was the spark that ignited the Bulldogs' comeback in the second half. Vincent scored eight points in the second half and grabbed six rebounds in the game.

Barnes credited Vincent for doing the little things, such as making a steal and grabbing rebounds, in the second half to lead his team to victory.

"It's the little things that are a difference in winning and losing," Barnes said.

"I like to give Mississippi State a lot of credit. All those guys hung in there."

Ole Miss forward Aaron Harper said he had to tip his hat to the Mississippi State players for playing hard the entire game.

"They played hard for 40 minutes and we didn't," Harper said.

Ole Miss turned the ball over 13 times in the second half, and Mississippi State capitalized by scoring 20 points of Ole Miss' turnovers.

"We had opportunities to take full control of the game," Barnes said.

"They got a very good basketball team. Down the stretch there they made plays, and we didn't."

Enjoy sports?
Write for the Rose Thorn!

thorn@rose-hulman.edu

Top Ten New Years Resolutions Broken This Week

10. Turn in your homework on time, and without those weird stains.
9. Stop stealing roommate's chocolate, Mountain Dew, underwear.
8. Bathe regularly.
7. Exercise ultimate control of the squirrel people.
6. Cut down on those messy axe murders that ruin your favorite clothes.
5. Stop calling professors "Jimbo," "Ike," and "Dr. Foofoo McKnuckleberry."
4. Find that funky smell coming from behind your desk.
3. Work on learning Esperanto.
2. Stop stalking that blonde in your Optics class.
1. Stop putting Hertz references in Top Ten lists.

Tired of not feeling like yourself? Waking up in the morning to find that the face in the mirror is the same as yesterday's? Skin lost its sheen, giving way to a dull scaly membrane?

Try Flepsium. Flepsium is a new prescription drug that may help with a rare disorder. If you have a family history of mitochondria, hyperflexion, or distension, you are an at-risk subject for this disease.

Side effects of flepsium include perfidy, monikery, bloated thumbs, and decreased gas mileage.

Only your doctor knows if the little brown tetrahedron is right for you. See your doctor today.

Herbig's Pun of the Week

Jesus said to his disciples, "The Kingdom of heaven is like $3x^2 + 8x - 9$." They didn't understand, so they asked Peter what he meant. "Don't worry," said Peter. "It's just another one of his parabolas."

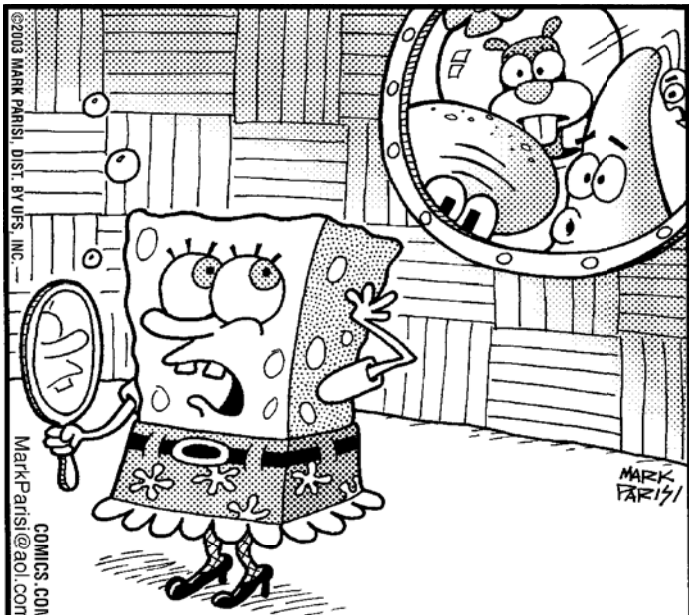
SAVE ALL BARCODES



off the mark

by Mark Parisi

w w w . o f f t h e m a r k . c o m



THE SECRET LIFE OF SPONGEBOB SQUARESKIRT

Wacky Prof Quotes

"It seems to us kind of horrible, but it's horrible in an affectionate way."
--Prof. House, relating horror and affection

"See how easily misled you are? It's wonderful having the power of the professor."
--Prof. Ferguson, mad with power

"That goes beyond my expertise."
--Prof. Bunch, on gophers

"It's not some magical thing handed down my Moses!... 'Here are the Ten Commandments and... Convolution!'"
--Prof. Ferguson, preachin' that time-invariant religion

"a, b, c, d... how about e? That's a good name for a constant! Oh, wait, there's actually a reason it's called e?"
--Prof. Chenoweth, learning about Euler

"The plain fact is that most failures are caused by stupidity. Plain, stupid ignorance... Stupidity erupts all over the place."
--Prof. Sutterer, apparently frustrated about something

"I don't think Professor Padgett can do this."
--Prof. Ferguson, doing an integral without pictures

"Random is an odd thing. Random can look pretty patterny."
--Prof. Thomas, going outside his field

"I can hear Caroline Carvill's skin shriveling."
--Prof. Gohre, advocating un-good grammer

"You can see my copy, but I ask for a \$50 deposit. Or your first-born child."
--Prof. McKinney, being gracious.

"Except dogs can't do your hair."
--Prof. House on the limitations of canine servility

Send your prof quotes or other humor material to flipside@rose-hulman.edu.

This Day in History

The first modern circus was staged in 1768, with Philip Astley performing stunts on a horse. This is followed by an accident creating the first "Circus Goober."

In Addition

Sometimes, I make myself a ham sandwich, and I draw a little face on it in mustard. I swear I can hear it scream as I eat it.



THE ABSOLUTE SUM OF ALL EVIL...

...A LADIES' MAN, NO TIME TO TALK